THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 26th March 1955.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Expansion of facilities for medical education in the State

* 262 *Q*.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the schemes that are under the consideration of Government for the expansion of facilities for medical education in the State;

(b) whether the report of the Committee of Dr. Rm. Alagappa Chettiar's offer to start a new medical college in one of the southern districts has been received by the Government; and

(*c*) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government in furtherance of the scheme referred to in clause (*b*) above?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No specific schemes are under the consideration of the Government at present.

" (*b*) Yes, Sir.

" (*c*) The report is under examination."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Considering the urgent need for more doctors to expand medical facilities in rural areas, will the Government expedite the schemes that are under consideration for opening new medical colleges and especially the offer of Dr. Alagappa Chettiar? We also saw in the papers that there is a proposal to start a medical college in Coimbatore."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The report of Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar Committee has just been received, and it is under examination. The establishment of a medical college involves a very huge amount. Nearly a crore of rupees is required with the necessary staff with qualifications and experience. So the matter cannot be expedited in the manner suggested by the hon. Member."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" With reference to the financial commitment as stated by the Hon. Minister, may I know whether the Government will kindly contact Dr. Alagappa Chettiar to see what amount by way of private contributions would be available for starting a new medical college especially from Chettinad area?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Some of the gentlemen there have offered to give contribution for putting up wards and also for endowing beds. We are yet to get definite information in this matter."

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Union Government have offered to bear two-thirds of the net cost as subsidy for technical colleges, and will this State Government address the Union Government for inclusion of this medical college scheme on that basis in the Second Five-Year Plan? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. The Central Government are expected to give financial assistance for new medical colleges during the Second Five-Year Plan. But there is no definite information as yet about this matter."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know, Sir, if there is a proposal to locate a First-Grade District Headquarters Hospital at Karaikudi? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" If the medical college is to be set up there, it will necessarily require an attached hospital with sufficient bed strength and special departments."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" In view of the existing facilities at Karaikudi, such as the Arts College, Engineering College, Women's College, etc., will not the establishment of a medical college at Chettinad add to the feasibility of starting an ideal unitary type of University with provision for all faculties, and will this factor also be taken into consideration in deciding on the location of the new medical college? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. The Committee has taken due note of the academic atmosphere of the place and made its suggestions accordingly."

SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that Karaikudi is now too crowded and, when we want to establish a medical college, with a large hospital attached to it, would it not be better to keep it away from this cumbrous mixing up of all colleges in one place? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, Karaikudi has been developing into a University town and the atmosphere and surroundings there will be quite good. But there are other matters to be taken into consideration before finally deciding on the location of the college. We shall have to consider the suitability of other centres also."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government have made an assessment of the need of the State for doctors? How many doctors are required, and what is the expenditure for establishing these medical colleges and the hospitals attached to them? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The estimate of expenditure for opening a medical college admitting fifty students and an attached hospital with 450 beds is, Rs. 25 lakhs for

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the hospital building, Rs. 25 lakhs for equipment, Rs. 15 lakhs for the college building, and Rs. 15 lakhs for the equipment, and additional money will have to be spent for putting up hostels for students, quarters for nurses, and staff. This will easily cost a little more than a crore of rupees."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" How many such units are required to meet the needs of our State, Sir? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" Fifty students is the minimum number to be admitted."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" How many units of colleges, hospitals, etc., are required to meet the needs of our State? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The Bhore Committee recommended the establishment of three medical colleges, one at Madurai, one at Coimbatore and another at Kozhikode."

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Granting that the Government come to a final decision that the college should be located at Karaikudi as per the recommendation of the Committee, may I know what proportion of the expenditure will be met by Dr. Alagappa Chettiar and what proportion will be met by the Government? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" That has yet to be ascertained. We must know definitely what contributions or other help will be forthcoming from the residents of the place, from the Central Government, and from Dr. Alagappa Chettiar. It is all indefinite now."

Sri A. M. ALLAPICHAI :—" Is there any competition between Madurai and Karaikudi regarding the establishment of a medical college? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" In Madurai we have already established a medical college. There is no competition at all."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, how many were the applicants for admission to the medical colleges, how many were admitted and how many were not admitted during the last two years? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" There are about 1,200 applicants on an average. The number admitted last year is 135 in the Madras Medical College, 110 in the Stanley Medical College, and 50 in the Madurai College. Forty-two were given admission in the Manipal College, and a few applicants were admitted in the Vellore Medical College.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" If the Madras Government have to pay their share and if the Central Government also have to pay their share for the starting of a new college, will the 11-1 a.m.

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Government consider the feasibility of having it on the West Coast, preferably in the Malabar district, especially in view of the fact that there is already one hospital near Karaikudi, that is, in the nearby Madurai district? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" All these considerations will be taken into account, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I suggest that the Government consider the advisability of having a medical college in every district headquarters and getting the co-operation of the people in financing the starting of these colleges? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We feel so much difficulty in starting one more medical college in the State. Where is the question of starting a medical college in each district headquarters? I am afraid, it is a very big question."

Introduction of Tamil as the official language

* 263 Q.—SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to introduce Tamil as the official language; and, if so, when?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" No, Sir."

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI :—" மொழியை அடிப்படையாகக்கொண்டு ஒரு மாகாணம் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டால் இந்த சென்னை மாகாணத்தில் தமிழ் மொழியை அரசாங்க மொழியாக்க ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்வார்கள் அல்லவா ? அதற்கு இப்போதே இந்த தமிழ் மொழியை அரசங்கா மொழியாக ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு வேண்டிய பிரயத்னம் செய்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M, BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" தாய் மொழியை அரசாங்க மொழியாக ஆக்குவது நல்லது என்பதில் எந்தவிதமான அபிப்பிராய பேதமும், தடங்கலும் சர்க்காரை பொறுத்த மட்டிலும் இல்லை. ஆனால் எப்போது எதை எப்படிச் செய்வது என்பதைத்தவிர இதை பிரச்னையாக எடுத்துக்கொண்டு சர்ச்சை செய்ய வேண்டாம் என்பது அரசாங்கத்தின் வேண்டுகோள்."

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI :—" இந்தியா பூராவும் ஹிந்தியை 15 ஆண்டுகளில் அரசாங்க மொழியாக்க வேண்டுமென்று ஒரு சட்டம் இருந்தாலும்கூட மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின்கீழ் வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய சிப்பந்திகள் கட்டாயமாக ஹிந்தி தெரிந்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்று யூனியன் ஸர்வீஸ் கமிஷனால் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. இனிமேல் இந்த அரசாங்கமும் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தோடு ஹிந்தியிலே கடிதப் போக்குவரத்துக்கள் இருக்க வேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் நம் அரசாங்கத்தின் நிலைமை என்னாவது ? "

THE HON, SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" இந்திய அரசாங்கம் கொடுத்திருக்கும் 15 ஆண்டு கெடு போதாது என்றுதான் சொல்ல வேண்டி யிருக்கும். எதையும் அவசரப்பட்டு செய்தால் அது கஷ்டமாகத்தான் இருக்கும். அதையெல்லாம் உத்தேசித்து எதையும் கவனித்து எப்படிச் செய்யவேண்டுமோ அந்த மாதிரியாகத்தான் செய்யவேண்டும்."